

Interleukin-6 soluble receptor (IL-6 sR): Just as elevated levels of IL-6 are associated with a number of pathologies, so are elevated levels of the soluble form of the IL-6 receptor (Jones SA, Horiuchi S, Topely N, Yamamoto N Fuller GM: The soluble interleukin 6 receptor: mechanisms of production and implications in disease. *FASEB J* 2001,15:43-58.). IL-6 sR is measured by ultra-sensitive ELISA (R&D Systems, Minneapolis, MN). The lower detection level is 6.5 pg/ml and the detection range 31.2 – 2000 pg/ml. Serum, plasma or urine samples may be used. A monoclonal antibody specific for IL-6 sR is coated on the assay plate and a polyclonal anti-IL-6 sR antibody is used as the sandwich antibody. The amount of IL-6 sR is determined by a colorimetric reaction.